The World of IF

Gibbs

Ivory Castles Fairy Book

with

pictures to paint and songs

22500835273

THE WORLD OF IF

THE 5th
IVORY CASTLE FAIRY BOOK

"Come" the Archer says "and see
Round the World of IF with me
But before you cross the border
See your passports are in order!"

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London E.1
1930

The Gibbs Archer

If you join up all thes
little marks carefull
the Archer will appea
The marks are made lik
this – – – – so th
you can see how the line
go. When you hav
drawn the Archer, yo
can colour him.

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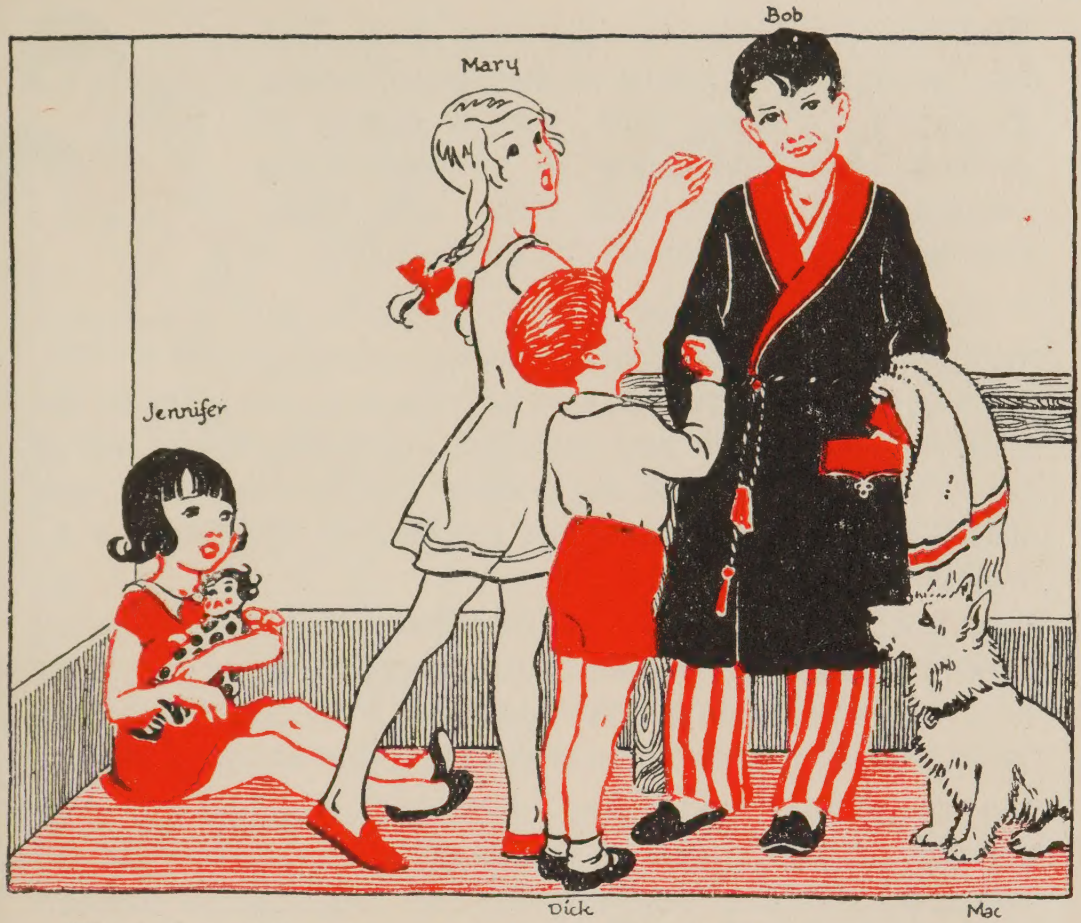


The children of the story . . . . playing the game of "What I'm going to be."

CHAPTER I.

THE children had been playing that delightful game of saying what they wanted to do when they were grown up—Bob, who was twelve, said he would be a great explorer, and have an aeroplane and fly thousands of miles—Mary, aged ten, thought she would like to be a hospital nurse; or else dress very beautifully and sing in a big theatre; and eight year old Jennifer wanted three babies and a house with a real cooking-stove. Dick at six years was quite determined to be an engine-driver and drive very fast express trains.

It was almost bedtime—baths were done, and the children were washing their teeth. Bob shared a room with Dick, and Mary and Jennifer went into the big nursery. It was a lovely summer night and the silver moonlight shone right along the corridor.

Suddenly, outside the nursery door, Bob saw a figure standing in the moonbeams. It carried a long bow, and a quiver of arrows, and Bob knew it at once. He remembered his cousins Pearl and Peter talking excitedly about "The Archer."

A figure stood in the moonlight

"The Gibbs Archer, look, quick!" he whispered, nudging Dick who was already staring in astonishment, and in a second they were in the corridor, and Mary and Jennifer came tip-toeing out of the nursery, and went right up to the Archer. Mac was watching him too, thumping his tail on the floor as he wagged it.

The Archer smiled in the friendliest way, and they all loved him at once : he had such beautiful clear grey eyes and his teeth were like pearls. You could see how strong he was, and yet he was so slender and graceful.

He moved slightly to the window, beckoning the children to follow him out on to the sill. Then he closed the window, and Bob noticed that the moonbeams instead of shining through the panes, bent sharply and gleamed down to the garden path.

The Archer stepped on to the moonbeam, the children came close behind him, and they all slid easily down the silver slide to the garden.

—it was the Archer.

There was a low mist round the apple-trees and here the Archer stopped and shot an arrow straight at the moon, where it showed between the crab-apple and the Cox's Orange Pippin.

For a moment everything was quite still; then, slowly the mist lifted and showed an enormous gate, and over it in glistening letters were the words, "The World of If."

Then for the first time the Archer spoke; he had such a deep but clear, friendly voice that the children could have listened to him for ages.

Sliding down the Moonbeam.

At the Gateway.

"As you see," he began, "This is the gateway to the World of If, where people go when they grow up! There are two countries in it—one is the Land of Health and Happiness, and the other is the Land of Disappointment: anyone can go *there*, though no one wants to! But to get into the Land of Health and Happiness you must have a special passport."

"How do you get it?" asked the children all together.

"It's not very difficult," the Archer replied cheerfully, "you must just send ten million Gibbs Fairies to defend your Ivory Castles before you are fifteen years old! Now come with me, and he touched the great gate with his bow. At once it opened and the children followed him through, keeping close to him and to each other, all a little out of breath with excitement. Inside the gate it seemed like the top of a mountain and far below them were the two countries.

On one the sun was shining brightly, and the other looked cold and dark and covered with clouds. "I needn't tell you which is the Land of Health and Happiness," the Archer said. "The sun always shines there and trees and flowers always bloom—everyone is well and happy and has just what he wants, and nothing ever goes wrong. Those white glittering forts that you see all round the borders are the Ivory Castles—they are to protect the land and the people who live there."

The children had never seen such a beautiful place, sparkling with sunshine and glowing with thousands of gay flowers, whose fragrance was blown to them on the breeze.

The Land of Health and Happiness

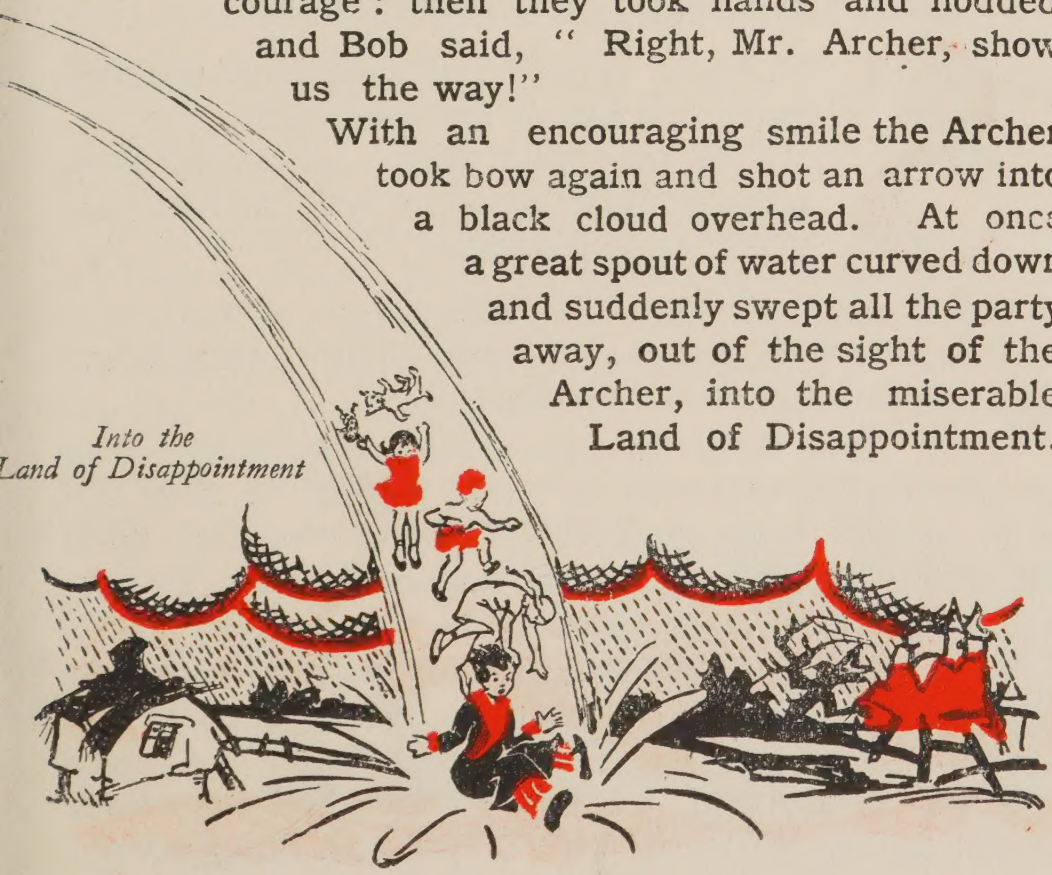
" Now you must look at the *other* side," said the Archer, and they turned to look down on the dull cloudy land, where the clouds hung low and a cold biting wind blew over the dreary swamp—round the ruins that were seen here and there.

" This is the Land of Disappointment," the Archer said. " Those ruins were once Ivory Castles but Giant Decay broke through with his Hordes and Imps and laid the whole land to waste. There is always something wrong here, and no one is really happy. Hundreds of people go to the Land of Disappointment when they didn't mean to. But just because they were thoughtless and didn't bother about their passports to the Land of Health and Happiness, they come here—and it's an awfully difficult place to get out of!

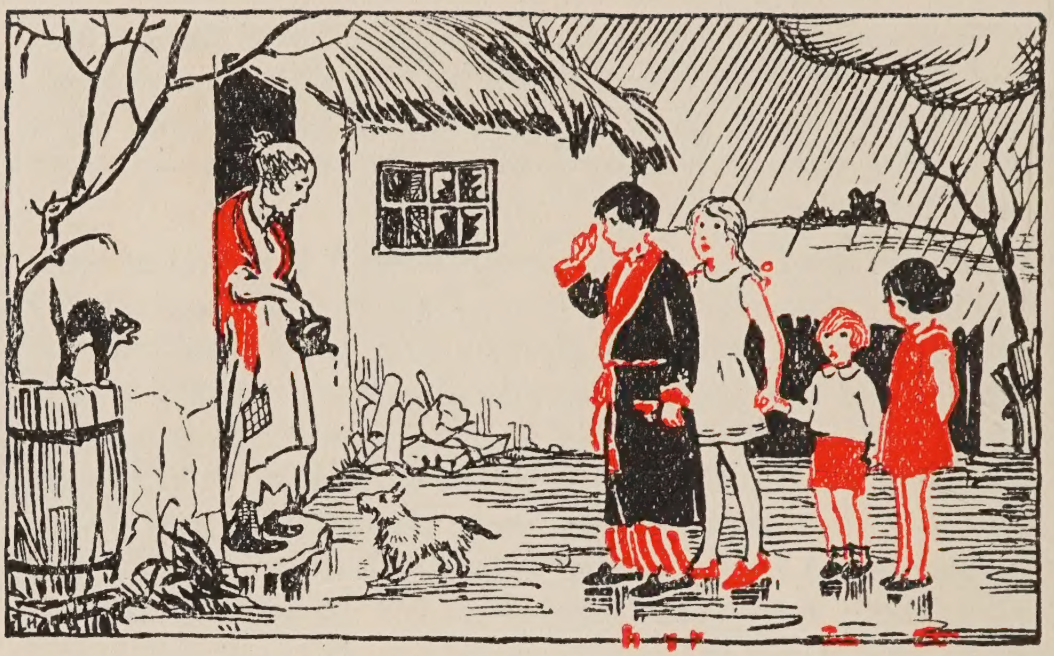
I should like you all to go into this land for just a little while so that you'll know how horrid it is : and after that I'll let you into the Land of Health and Happiness for a whole day—so you will have that to look forward to!"

The children looked at one another—screwing up their courage : then they took hands and nodded and Bob said, " Right, Mr. Archer, show us the way!"

With an encouraging smile the Archer took bow again and shot an arrow into a black cloud overhead. At once a great spout of water curved down and suddenly swept all the party away, out of the sight of the Archer, into the miserable Land of Disappointment.



Into the Land of Disappointment



At the Farm in the Land of Disappointment.

CHAPTER II.

"In the world of IF, they say,
Lies a country sad and grey.
People here, unhappy throng,
Find that all their plans go wrong:
Everything that's good they miss
'Land of Disappointment' this!"

THE LAND OF DISAPPOINTMENT.

SPLASH! Bump! The waterspout dropped them, one by one into the marsh.

"This is a fine start," grumbled Bob, scraping mud out of his hair, as Mary sat up in the next puddle.

"I'm all wet," cried Jennifer with a burst of tears.

"So is everybody else!" said Mary: "There, sweetheart, don't cry—we'll get dry somehow."

"Look," said Bob, "there's a farm over there; let's go and see if they'll help us." And through the mud and grey drizzle they trudged, getting wetter and more miserable, but hoping to find a good fire and perhaps some hot milk to warm them.

"No," said the starved-looking old woman, when she opened the shaky door to them, while Mac sniffed suspiciously round the doorstep: "There's not any fire here to dry you. Perhaps I might find you a drop of hot tea as you're so wet." And she disappeared;

coming back, however, the next minute saying mournfully, " I'm very sorry, but there's none left."

The Gloomy Farmer

"What a disappointment," said Mary—they didn't want tea very much, but it would have been better than nothing. "Well," said Bob, doubtfully, " can we get to a town or some where? Is there a train or 'bus?—we're all so wet, you see!"

A gloomy looking old farmer poked his head out of the door at this. " I could manage to take you perhaps in the car," he said hesitatingly.

" Oh! good," exclaimed Bob—" that would be fine!"

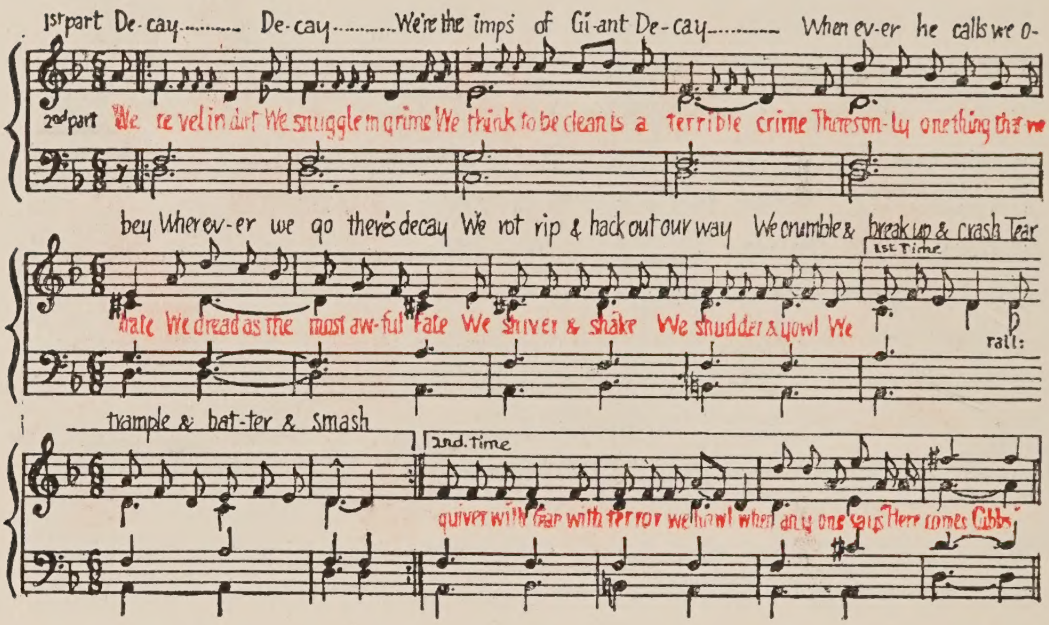
" It's just here," said the man, hobbling out and across the yard. The children following him, saw to their dismay a shaky old crock of a car which looked as though it could never move without falling to pieces. However, he fumbled about until it began to splutter and shake, and then grumpily called them to get in. It *was* uncomfortable too. As they jolted and creaked along the dreary roads, which seemed quite deserted, Mac pricked up his ears, and Bob cried out "Whatever's that?" pointing to a weird and horrid-looking creature, hiding in a ditch.

" Hush!" said the old man, and tried to make the old car go a bit faster. " That was an Imp, one of Giant Decay's Imps—this country belongs to him."

Just then they rounded a corner, and saw another Imp in front of them. It turned to look at the car, and then as they were passing it leaped on the running board with a squeak and began banging the farmer over the head with a club. To the children's surprise, he didn't try to drive it away, and presently it dropped off.

They saw a horrid-looking creature.

MARCHING SONG OF THE IMPS.



1st Part.

Decay—Decay
We're the imps of Giant Decay;
Whenever he calls we obey;
Wherever we go there's decay;
We rot, rip and hack out our way,
We crumble and break up and crash,
Tear, trample and batter and smash!

2nd Part.

We revel in dirt, we snuggle in grime,
We think to be clean is a terrible crime.
There's only one thing that we hate;
We dread as the most awful fate,
We shiver and shake,
We shudder and yowl,
We quiver with fear,
With terror we howl,
When anyone says, "Here comes Gibbs!"

The Imps routed by the Dentifrice case.

"It's no good fighting them," said the old man, "that one would only call a hundred others and I should get it worse than ever!—as it is, I shall have a headache all day." This made the children still more uncomfortable, and they were glad when they saw in the distance the chimneys of a gloomy looking city.

Here the farmer stopped. "You can walk from here," he said, "I can't take you all the way after all ; I want to get back."

Disappointed again, the children unwillingly began to walk along the dirty road. "This is a miserable place," said Jennifer, "can't we go home? Oh, and there's another of those horrid things!"

Nervously they turned, to see another of Decay's creatures scurrying up to them.

"Remember not to hit him," whispered Mary to Bob. "*Do* be careful."

But when the Imp rushed up and gave him a slap in the face, Bob promptly knocked it down! At once it started a terrific yowling, and up came running other Imps, crawling and wriggling out of the hedges and over the walls till they were all round the shrinking children.

Bob was desperate : then he had a great idea! He pulled out of his pocket a case of Gibbs Dentifrice!

The Dragon "Dirt" Vanquished.

Directly the Imps caught a glimpse of the famous case they fled wildly in all directions, shrieking in terror and scuttling into their hiding-places as fast as they could.

Bob laughed, though there was a catch in his breath. "And it's empty too!" he said ; "At least there's no dentifrice in it now! I carry my fly-fishing casts in it!"

"It was a jolly good thought of yours," said Mary, still pale, "Let's take that path across the field, where there are no hedges for Imps to hide behind!"

So over the stile they climbed and were half-way across, when they heard a sort of low snort.

"Now what's that?" said Mary, and Jennifer clung to her sister's arm. Dick looked anxiously at Bob.

"I think," said he, "that it came from those bushes," pointing to the lower end of the field ; and as they looked another snort came, the bushes shook, while a frightful head and a long neck showed itself.

"Run! run!" cried Bob, "It's a dragon! Get to the stile. Grabbing Jennifer's hand, Mary made off. Mac had turned tail at once and was already barking from the other side of the stile ; Bob seized Dick's arm and yanked him away at a fast sprint. He could hear thumping hooves, for the dragon was close behind, grunting and bellowing with rage. Bob felt they would never get to the stile in time—what could he do?—try the Gibbs Dentifrice case again! "Run on," he said to Dick and pushed him ahead—then turning he faced the dragon and just as the beast was going to spring, he pulled out the shining case!

With a terrific howl the dragon dug his hoof into the ground and stopped dead, then turned and lumbered off, whining piteously.

Running away from the Dragon "Dirt."

But he was pleased all the same !

Later on Bob heard that this was the dragon " Dirt," the Giant Decay's favourite mount. He was a most evil beast and where he trod, the grass withered and his breath spread illness and misery.

" That *was* splendid of you, Bob," cried Mary, running up as he got over the stile and kissing him, while Mac jumped round them both, giving short, excited barks of joy.

"Oh, dry up!" said Bob, but he was pleased all the same! " Good old Gibbs Dentrifice, it's big magic here!—if they knew the case was empty they *would* feel sold," he chuckled.

" Let's get away as fast as we can," said Mary. " If we got back to where we came in, perhaps we could somehow let the Archer know how miserable we are."

" Right," said Dick, " It is pretty awful!—Back to the road again—we might get a lift, too."

Tired and muddy they stumbled along the road and after a while saw the farmer still on his way home. Bob hailed him and he stopped and they told him their adventure. "This is what did the trick," said Bob, proudly showing him the Dentifrice case.

" It's wonderful, wonderful!" exclaimed the farmer. " I'd give a lot to have that! Giant Decay and his Imps are so frightened of Gibbs Dentifrice that they dread the sight of even the empty case!"

" Well, look here," said Bob, " If you'll help us get away quickly, I'll give you the case."

" I daren't do anything against them," said the man hurriedly, for living in that land had made him cowardly —" but I'd give you this car in exchange, if you could

The Farmer values his exchange.

drive yourself back in it. Straight on for about fifty miles."

"It's a bargain," said Bob handing over the case.

"Jump in," he called to the others, "we'll try to do it anyhow—and we've learned quite enough to make us work hard for our passports to the land of Health and Happiness."

"I'd try anything to get away," agreed Mary.

"Keep a sharp look-out for Imp Scouts," said Bob as he let the car into top gear. For a while the only sound was the jangling and rattling of the ricketty old engine and the bumping over the rocky road.

"Only twenty miles more," said Bob at length, "but this is rather a bad piece of road now," and at that moment came a quick hiss of fear from Mary as she pointed to a hill nearby.

"Oh dear! another Imp," groaned Jennifer, "and he can see us, too!"

For the Imp was terribly excited, leaping up and down and making signals, and pointing at the car. They were seen—there was nothing for it but to go ahead in a forlorn hope. Bob did his utmost to get another ounce of speed out of the old machine, and it kept going, for which they were thankful; for if it stopped now fifteen miles from the border, they were done for! On they sped, and rounding a corner into a valley there was a gasp from all four!

Marching to the road from three directions, armies of Imps were coming at the double to cut off their escape, and over the next hill could be seen their leader, Giant

Decay mounted on his dragon, Dirt. The Imps were singing their war song, and Decay could be heard squeaking orders in a loathsome falsetto voice.

Bob was white as a sheet, but he drove steadily on—there was no going back. Jennifer began to sob, and Dick was wondering if he could kill old Giant Decay with the monkey-wrench.

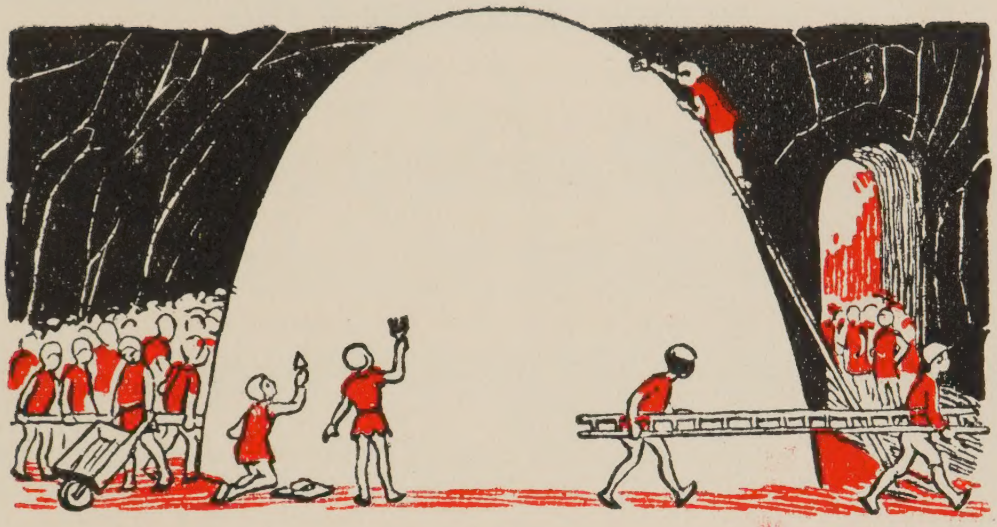
Suddenly, Bob noticed that a row was going on in the Imps ranks. They swung round in another direction, and Giant Decay halted his dragon and looked anxiously towards the forts. A shrill and horrid scream ripped through the air and the dragon suddenly sagged forward —dead.

"Hurrah! the Archer!" yelled Bob almost mad with delight ; now they could see the array of Gibbs Fairies speeding to their rescue : the Imps battalions were in confusion and Giant Decay had slithered into the nearest cave squeaking with rage.

In a few minutes it was all over—they were back in the Land of the Present, standing beside the Archer once more—all breathless, but happy. And Mac flopped down and went to sleep at once.

"My, I'm glad you came in time," said Bob. "It was awful in there—we shall never forget the Land of Disappointment."

Giant Decay on his Dragon "Dirt"



Building the Central Mound

CHAPTER III.

THE IVORY CASTLES

"MIND the step," said the Archer as they got into the lift at the edge of the plateau.

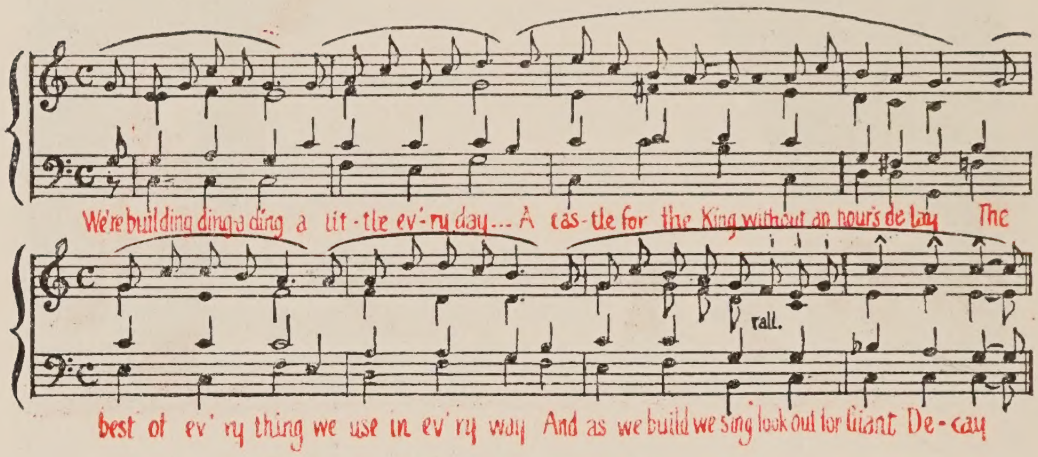
"Where are we going?" asked Mary.

"I'm taking you down into the foundations," the Archer replied. "I want to show you how we build these beautiful Ivory Castles that guard the Land of Health and Happiness. We are always building new Castles because this is an awfully big country, and we have to have fresh Castles to guard the boundary of each inhabitant. And as more people are coming here every day you can imagine how much work there is to do."

While the Archer was speaking the lift was dropping down faster and faster. They began to wonder if it would ever stop. At last it reached the bottom. "Here we are," said the Archer, stepping out. The children followed. They were in a sort of tunnel. "Look out," Bob called, pushing Dick and Jennifer to one side. A party of brightly dressed young creatures came hurrying past. "Who are they?" Mary asked.

"Oh they are some of the Ivory Castle building Elves," the Archer explained, "If we hurry after them I think

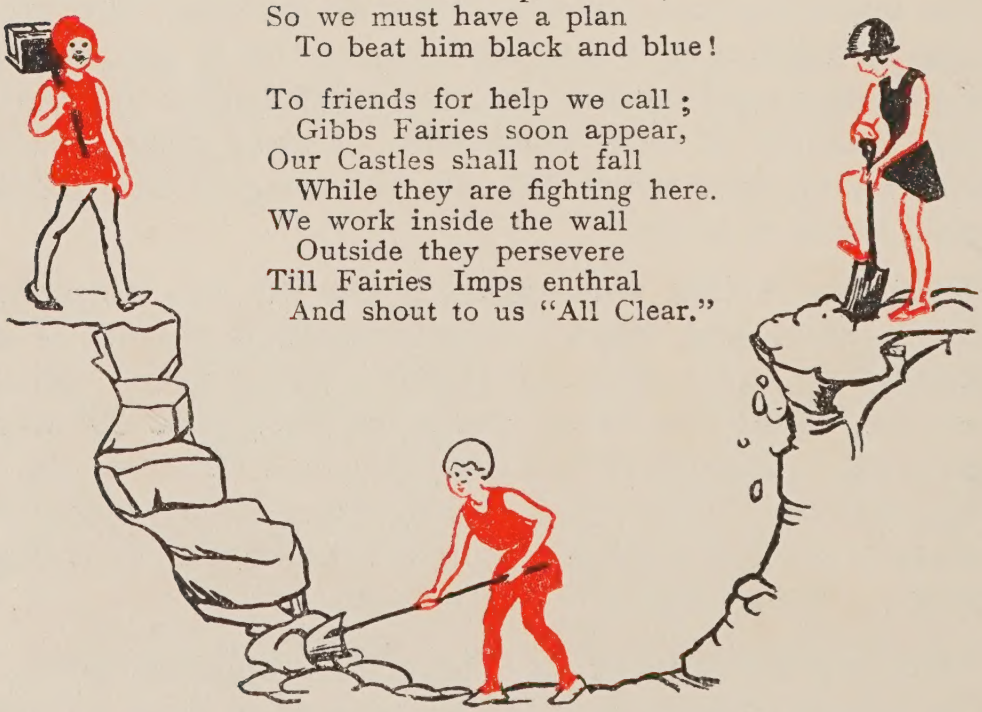
ELVES' BUILDING SONG



We're building—" ding-a-ding "—
  A little every day
A Castle for the King,
  With not an hour's delay.
The best of everything
  We use in every way,
And as we build, we sing,
  "Look out for Giant Decay!"

We do the best we can,
  But spite of all we do
For all the kingly clan,
  Decay is working too!
He tries to bring his ban,
  With all his Impish crew;
So we must have a plan
  To beat him black and blue!

To friends for help we call;
  Gibbs Fairies soon appear,
Our Castles shall not fall
  While they are fighting here.
We work inside the wall
  Outside they persevere
Till Fairies Imps enthral
  And shout to us "All Clear."



The Inside of the Castle.

we'll be in time to see them start work on a new Castle." Sure enough, a little way down the tunnel the Elves had stopped, and were busy making an enormous pile in the centre of a big circle.

"See this is the central mound," the Archer said, "which becomes the Central Chamber of the Ivory Castle. Through it all supplies and messages pass. I'll explain that later. But now watch what the Elves are doing."

The children craned forward to watch the dainty little Elves who worked so rapidly. There were hundreds of them, but they never seemed to get in each other's way at all. When the mound was quite high, several groups of Elves began weaving a big fibre net around the outside.

"That's the tooth-sac," the Archer whispered. As soon as it was completely woven other Elves began plastering it with sticky stuff like cement which quickly hardened and the fibre net became a strong thin wall. Then all the Elves went on building the Castle inside this wall.

"What are they doing now?" Bob asked excitedly.

"They're making what are called the Dentine Tubes," the Archer explained, "layers and layers of these make up the inner wall of the Castle, and each one must be big enough to allow the Elves to run back and forth with supplies and materials for making the outer walls strong."

The Elves first formed the tubes from the material on the mound, then groups of Elves ran down the tunnel and brought back new material in wheelbarrows.

Building the Dental Sac.

" That's lime-salts to harden the Dentine Tubes, and make them firm and strong," the Archer told the children, " Getting enough lime-salts is one of our worst jobs. Owners of these Castles will not send along the right stuff."

" How can we know?" Bob asked.

" It's quite simple, you must eat lots of food containing lime-salts, like wholemeal bread; then the lime-salts come along to build the Ivory Castle."

" Oh look," said Mary, " the Elves with the wheelbarrows aren't working any more. They're all sitting down doing nothing."

"You see, just what I told you has happened," the Archer explained, " There are no more lime-salts. Now parts of the Castle wall will always be weak. They can't stop making the Dentine Tubes because the Castle must be ready by a certain day, so they just build with whatever they can find."

By this time one or two wheelbarrows were going, but the children could see that there weren't nearly enough lime-salts coming to make good Castle walls.

" Come now to the next Castle," said the Archer, " it's nearly finished and I want you to see the inside before I take you on the outer forts."

They climbed a long stairway and came into a great big hall. Elves were skipping about daintily on a hundred different errands. Some were carrying baskets of provisions down the long Dentine Tube passages, to feed the workers there ; others were making parcels of all the stuff that was coming off a sort of railway that ended

Relays of Lime-Salts.

Out came all the Gibbs Fairies.

in the middle of the hall; still more were busy telephoning at rows of little 'phones near a big switchboard.

" They are reporting to Ivory Castle Headquarters," the Archer said. "They also use these telephones to call for help, if Giant Decay breaks through the Castle wall."

" You see," went on the Archer, " the inside garrison is really only a housekeeping staff. These Elves can't fight. And anyway they haven't time. Also the walls are so thick and strong the Elves never know that an enemy is near until the wall is broken. That is why we have to keep such a strict watch on the outside. That is why every Ivory Castle guarding the Land of Health and Happiness is patrolled night and day by hundreds of Gibbs Fairies."

" Here again the owner of the Castles must help. For only when the owner tells them can Gibbs Fairies go on patrol. And if the owner doesn't recruit enough Gibbs Fairies each day, his Castles cannot be defended properly."

" How can we recruit Gibbs Fairies?" asked Dick, stumbling a bit over the new word.

" By what you call washing your teeth," the Archer explained. " Every time you rub your toothbrush on your cake of Gibbs Dentifrice and over your teeth hundreds of Gibbs Fairies leap to defend your Castle walls."

The Archer then led them outside the Castles. He pointed up to one Castle with a lot of scaffolding all round it. "See, these are the Enamel workers," he said. Shading their eyes against the bright glitter the children could

see hundreds of Elves busy fitting blocks of gleaming enamel on to the Castle walls. They worked hard and fast until the whole castle from top to bottom was built up with the beautiful, pearly enamel.

An Imp cannot stay on the clean polished surface

"Now that looks beautiful," said the Archer, "but that isn't the only reason why we have this lovely, glittering finish on the Castles. This enamel is the hardest, strongest stuff we can find to defy Giant Decay. It can be polished so that no Imp can hang on to start his boring and digging. That's the work Gibbs Fairies have to do. They have to keep these Ivory Castle walls so clean that no Imp can gain a foothold, and they do it if you let them."

"What's this funny ground we're standing on?" asked Mary.

"This is gum land," said the Archer, "this is a very important part of the foundations. It has to be kept firm, by pounding it with hard crusts and raw apples and things. Then we pour orange juice over them. Gibbs Fairies work here too. They are very helpful in keeping gum land in good trim."

"Those Castles over there are Temporary Castles," said the Archer pointing to a row of nice little Castles just a bit to the South. "We always build Temporary Castles first when we hear of a newcomer who is planning to come to the Land of Health and Happiness."

"Some people don't bother about their Temporary Castles. They think 'Oh, I'll wait until they begin

building my Permanent Ivory Castles.' You should hear Giant Decay laugh when he hears that. He rushes along with an army of Imps and settles down in the Temporary Castles, and when the Elves try to build the Permanent Castles they find him there waiting to ruin everything before they even begin."

"Dick, you'd better listen to that," Bob said, giving his young brother a playful punch in the ribs.

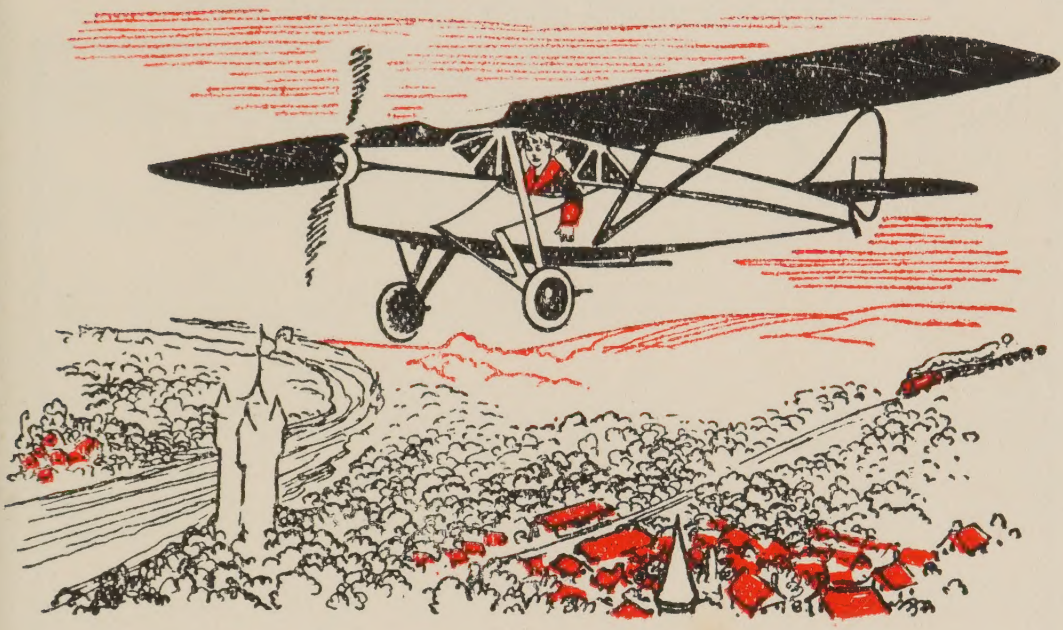
The Archer smiled, "Well, I think you've seen all the outside now. I'm going to let you into the Land of Health and Happiness for just one day. I know you'll enjoy it. Perhaps you'll see the Commander of the Ivory Castles, Dr. Welcome."

"Dr. Welcome," they all cried, "But he's our Dentist."

"Oh, is he?" said the Archer, "Well, anyway, he's a very important person in the Land of Health and Happiness."

They had reached the main gate by this time. The Archer took a small gold key from his pocket and opened the wicket and let them in.

Giant Decay settles in the temporary Castle and the elves find him there waiting.



Bob's Aeroplane

CHAPTER IV.

"See another country lies
Sparkling under sunny skies!
Here one's wishes all come true,
Flowers bloom, and skies are blue.
What's it's name? of course you guess!
'Land of Health and Happiness!'"

LAND OF HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

THEY were all looking at the roses inside the gate; the sun was shining brightly.

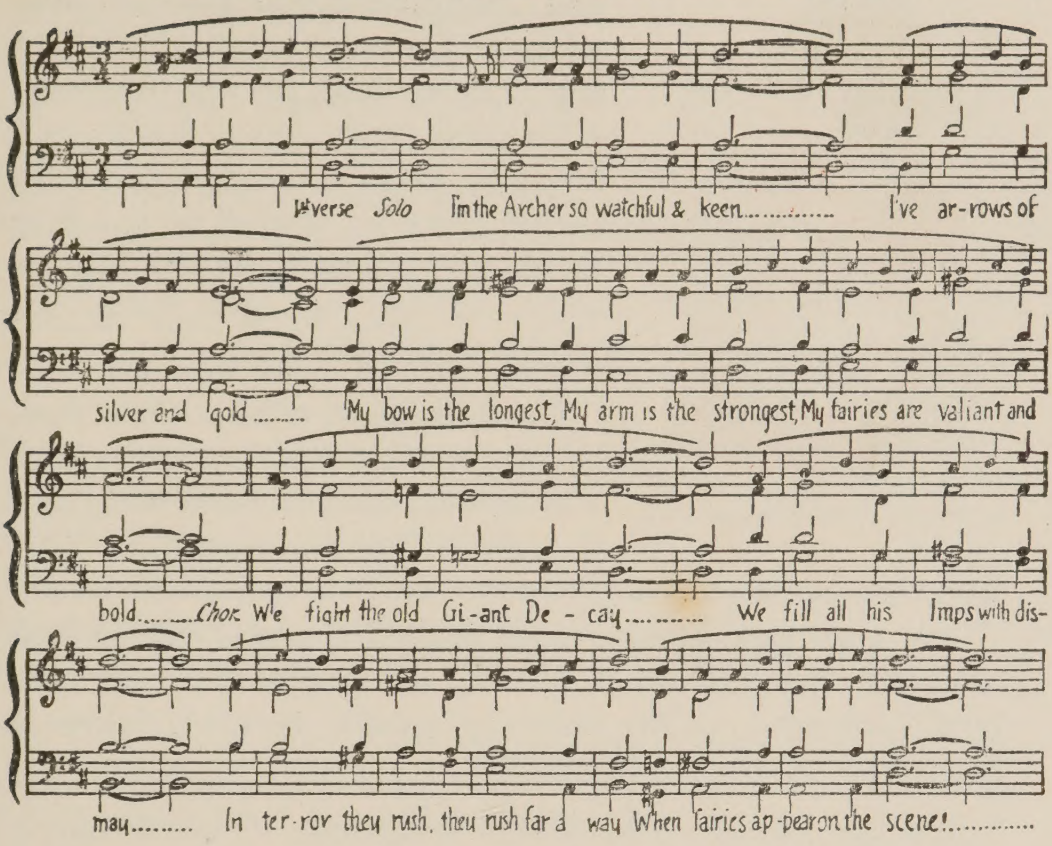
"Isn't this the most beautiful place you ever saw?" said Mary, "Oh I am happy." Dick was jumping up and down in excitement—he could see a train in the distance, and Mac was rushing in circles over the short springy grass. It was a lovely country, with high hills, woods, plains and rivers.

"I know what I should like," said Bob, "I wish I was in an aeroplane, flying over all that!"

And the next minute to his amazement, he *was* in an aeroplane! Up he went, swooping and soaring in the air—he had often dreamed of doing this and now it had really happened. He was flying high over the spacious country as easily as if he had been doing it all his life.

"This *is* topping," said Bob, as he flew rapidly, enjoying every moment. "Of course, in the Land of Health

Dr. Welcome joins the Tea-party.



Archer.

"All the Castles I guard with great care:
If I see there are enemies near,
My bugle is sounded, and quickly confounded
Is Giant Decay, pale with fear!"

Chorus of Fairies.

"For, fast from our houses we spring,
Fairy help to the Castle we bring,
And banish the Imps and their king;
From Gibbs Fairies they fly in despair!"

The Archer and the Fairies sing

A doll turned into a real baby.

and Happiness you get all your wishes! I wonder where the others are. On he flew, till the blue sea, where the trees grew down to a smooth, sandy beach, came in sight. Here he landed on the firm sands and at once heard Mary's voice calling to him from the shade of the trees.

" Oh Bob," she cried, " It's fine, we've been having a concert under the trees and I've been singing ; it's such fun dressing up. Now we're going to have a gorgeous tea; you're just in time." " We saw you flying," she added, " and Dick is just coming. He has been driving an engine and so he's very hungry." " So am I," said Bob, " Where's Jennifer? Is she with you?"

" She has been," said Mary, laughing. " She's had a fine time with a house to herself, making a chocolate cake, and her dearest doll Belinda has turned into a real live baby. So she has been busy. And Mac has been ratting!" What a deal of talking there was all the time they were having tea—the most delightful tea you can imagine; all the cakes were just as good as you expected them to be. There was so much to tell about all the wishes that had come true, that it seemed as if they would never stop, and it was quite surprising that they heard a voice say behind them, "Hello Bob!", and looked round to see a tall good-looking man smiling down at them.

" Dr. Welcome!" Bob exclaimed, and then as he got over his surprise he said politely, " Have you had tea, Sir ? Will you have some with us?"

" Thank you very much," said Dr. Welcome, " That's just what I should like,"

Dick's Train.

and sat down at once and began asking about their adventures. In a few minutes they were all chatting merrily, everyone talking at once, the children telling all their doings, and Dr. Welcome saying how pleased he was to see them in the Land of Health and Happiness. The children realised that he was nicer than they had ever imagined—actually they had been a little nervous of him, but they saw now how silly that was, when he was just like one of themselves and ready for any fun.

Doctor Welcome has a Telegram.

In the middle of all the merriment a messenger dashed up with a telegram for Dr. Welcome. "I shall have to go at once," he said, as he read it.

"New Castle on S.W. border broken into by Giant Decay—help needed, come at once please.—The Archer."

"Couldn't we come too?" Mary pleaded—"May we?"

"Can I?" Dick and Jennifer chimed in.

"I don't see why you shouldn't," said Dr. Welcome, "but we must hurry for we shall have to walk across fields, it's a new country and there are no roads yet."

"Let's fly," said Bob eagerly.

"No good, you couldn't land, it's too bumpy," said the Dentist. "We'll go as fast as we can—I've had reports that this little boy who owns the Castle hasn't been recruiting his Gibbs Fairy Patrols regularly; so I was afraid that Giant Decay might make a raid."

As they neared the country of the Castles, they could see the Archer looking out for them, and he met them by a small building marked "Recruiting Hut."

"Which Castle is it?" asked the Dentist.

"This," said the Archer, pointing out one almost in

A sulky little boy rubbing his toothbrush over a cake of Gibbs Dentifrice.

front of them.

"Then I'll go at once," said Dr. Welcome, and he hurried off.

The children glanced inside the Recruiting Hut and saw there a small sulky-looking little boy, scrubbing his teeth with Gibbs Dentifrice. He was the owner. As he scrubbed the Gibbs Fairies leaped from the case and dashed of to man the Castle walls, in such numbers that in a few minutes the children heard a cheer of triumph from the Fairies patrolling the top of the Castle, and Mac joined in with an emphatic bark. "Hurrah, Hurrah! we've won," they cried—and almost at once the Dentist was back again.

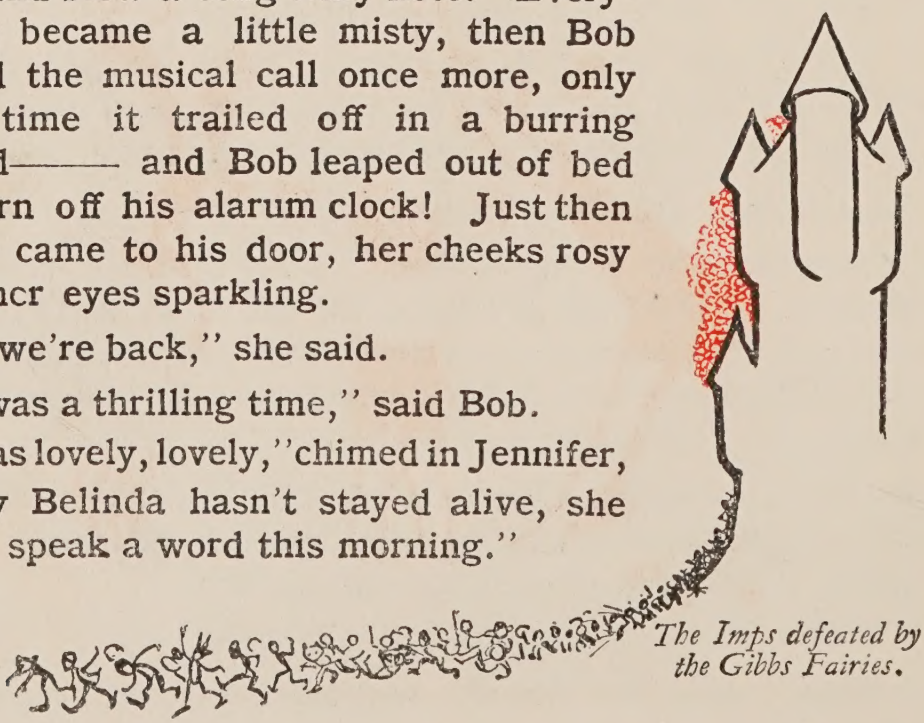
"My, you were quick," Bob exclaimed.

"It doesn't take long, if we're called in time," Dr. Welcome answered; and they were all beginning to talk again when suddenly the Archer looked at his watch. "Goodness! I'd no idea it was so late," he cried, "you young people must go." He turned smilingly to the children and raised a golden bugle to his lips and blew a long trilly note. Everything became a little misty, then Bob heard the musical call once more, only this time it trailed off in a burring sound——— and Bob leaped out of bed to turn off his alarum clock! Just then Mary came to his door, her cheeks rosy and her eyes sparkling.

"So we're back," she said.

"It was a thrilling time," said Bob.

"It was lovely, lovely," chimed in Jennifer, "only Belinda hasn't stayed alive, she can't speak a word this morning."



The Imps defeated by the Gibbs Fairies.

"Why, children, what were you making such a noise about?" said Mummy, coming in. "What has happened?"

"Oh, the most scrumptious adventures," cried everyone at once, and they began telling her very fast, all about every thing.

"Nonsense!" said Mummy, laughing.

"I think you've all been having very exciting dreams!" But whoever heard of four people having the same dream!

"Come on," said Bob, "I'm going to the Recruiting Hut to get the Gibbs Fairy Patrols out on the Ivory Castles. I want to make sure of my Passport to the Land of Health and Happiness. Down with Giant Decay!"

Mac only stood outside and sniffed with delight the fragrant smell of Gibbs Dentifrice; he didn't understand about Fairies, but he knew something about teeth!

"Down with Giant Decay," they all cried. "And three cheers for the Gibbs Fairies."

"Oh! The most scrumptious adventures" cried everyone at once!

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